

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

STATE OF MAINE
118TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
AND
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

MAY 1998

MEMBERS:

Sen. John T. Jenkins, Chair

Sen. Anne M. Rand

Sen. Bruce W. MacKinnon

Rep. Marc J. Vigue, Chair

Rep. Rosaire J. Sirois

Rep. Richard R. Farnsworth

Rep. Thomas P. Shannon

Rep. Thomas J. Wright

Rep. Robert A. Cameron

Rep. Thomas W. Murphy, Jr.

Rep. William E. Bodwell, II

Rep. Jay MacDougall

Rep. Adam Mack

Staff:

David C. Webb, Legislative Analyst

Office of Policy and Legal Analysis

Room 101/107/135, 13 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

(207)287-1670



Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013
 Telephone: (207) 287-1670
 Fax: (207) 287-1275

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR AND SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
May 1998

We are pleased to provide this summary of bills that were considered by the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill and relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken. Also included are statistical summaries of bill activity this Session for the Legislature and each of its joint standing committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills handled by the joint standing committees. It is organized by committees and within committees by bill (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are listed by paper number. Two indices, a subject index and a numerical index by LD number are provided for easy reference to bills. They are located at the back of the document. A separate publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, may also be helpful in providing information on the disposition of bills. These bill summaries also are available at the Law and Legislative Reference Library and on the Internet (www.state.me.us/legis/opla).

Final action on each bill is noted to the right of the bill title. The abbreviations used for various categories of final action are as follows:

- CON RES XXX*..... Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
- CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE*.....Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died
- DIED BETWEEN BODIES*.....House & Senate disagree; bill died
- DIED IN CONCURRENCE*.....One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill
- DIED ON ADJOURNMENT*.....Action incomplete when session ended; bill died
- EMERGENCY*.....Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
- FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*.....Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
- FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*.....Bill failed to get majority vote
- FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT*.....Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote
- INDEF PP*.....Bill Indefinitely Postponed
- ONTP*..... Ought Not To Pass report accepted
- OTP ND*..... Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
- OTP ND/NT*..... Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title
- P&S XXX*..... Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
- PUBLIC XXX*..... Chapter # of enacted Public Law
- RESOLVE XXX*..... Chapter # of finally passed Resolve
- UNSIGNED*.....Bill held by Governor
- VETO SUSTAINED*.....Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 30, 1998 and July 9, 1998 for the Second Special Session. Second Special Session laws include Public Laws beginning with Chapter 718, Private and Special Laws beginning with Chapter 82 and Resolves beginning with Chapter 117.

Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development

LD 597

An Act to Amend the Statutes Pertaining to Emergency Medical Services

PUBLIC 644

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
VIGUE CAREY	OTP-AM	H-879

LD 597, which was carried over from the First Session, proposed to amend the laws concerning emergency medical services by:

1. Changing the reference to the course that a basic emergency medical technician must complete from one defined by the United States Department of Transportation to one defined by Maine Emergency Medical Services;
2. Expanding the definition of emergency medical services person;
3. Expanding the monitoring power of the Emergency Medical Services Board to include other services provided by its licensees and to define treatments or services that fall within the scope of the practice of an emergency medical services person;
4. Adding three persons to the Emergency Medical Services Board; and
5. Listing the criminal convictions that result in denial, suspension or revocation of an emergency medical services license.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-879) proposed to amend the bill by:

1. Striking the expanded definition of "emergency medical services' person" and the provision expanding the monitoring power of the Emergency Medical Services' Board.
2. Striking the sections dealing with denial and suspension of licenses for criminal convictions.
3. Clarifying that the physician and nurse board member are representing the emergency medical field.
4. Striking the fire chief board member position and replacing it with a fire services representative position.
5. Clarifying that one of the nonpublic board members must also be a volunteer emergency medical services provider.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 644 requires that the basic emergency medical technician must complete a course defined by Maine Emergency Medical Services. The enacted law also modifies the composition of the EMS Board by specifying that the physician and nurse board members must work in the emergency

medical field, that the fire chief board member position is replaced by a fire services representative position, and that one of the nonpublic board members must also be a volunteer emergency medical services provider.

LD 1483

An Act to Register Interpreters for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing

PUBLIC 749

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> TREAT	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-589
----------------------------	---	------------------------------------

LD 1483, which was carried over from the First Session, proposed to require licensure of interpreters for the deaf and hard-of-hearing.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-589) This amendment proposed to replace the bill by establishing a system of registration of interpreters for the deaf and hard-of-hearing to be carried out by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation.

The amendment also proposed to:

1. Create a technical review committee to study the issue of how interpreters should be further regulated.
2. Require the Department of Education to report back to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over business and economic development matters and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs with respect to interpreter issues within the school system, as well as interpreter training programs.
3. Require the Division of Deafness to notify the public and state agencies with regard to the regulatory changes encompassed by this amendment.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 749 establishes a system of registration of interpreters for the deaf and hard-of-hearing to be carried out by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation. After January 1, 1999, a person may not provide interpreting services for compensation unless registered according to the terms of this chapter.

The enacted law also:

1. Creates a technical review committee to study the issue of how interpreters should be further regulated.
2. Requires the Department of Education to report back to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over business and economic development matters and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs with respect to interpreter issues within the school system, as well as interpreter training programs.
3. Requires the Division of Deafness to notify the public and state agencies with regard to the regulatory changes encompassed by this amendment.